trix memory **78**. Data fed to the matrix memory **78** is simultaneously supplied to the control coder-decoder **86** which, apart from a modem function, has the function of providing redundancy reduction for reducing the transmission bandwidth. The frequency multiplexer **88** provides for the simultaneous transmission of voice and redundancy reduced graphical data with the redundancy reduced graphical data being transmitted via a narrow bandpass range within the bandwidth of the telephone channel.

At the distant terminal **58** a reverse ordered sequence is initiated for the recovery of the graphical data beginning with the control coder-decoder **86**. The received graphical presentation **110** is fed to the matrix memory **78** via the processing unit **76**. Accordingly, on the display screen **32** of one or more distant terminals **58**, the transmitted graphical presentations **110** is reproduced. At this time, each of the subscribers is now able to make amendments and corrections to the graphical presentations **110** by touching one of the switching fields **38** with the pen **50** on the resistive coating **42** of any one of the distant terminals **58**. The placement of the pen **50** on the resistive coating **42** at any terminal **10** or any distant terminal **58** causes the graphic input for correction to the existing graphic presentation **110** to be deactivated at all other terminals **10** and distant terminals **58**. This is because corrections can be made to the graphical presentation **110** at only one terminal **10** or terminal **58** at any particular instant.

By replacing the handset **16** onto the cradle **18**, the connection to all subscribers is terminated and the represented functions and setting are erased. Upon lifting the handset **16**, the telephone mode is automatically initiated and the image of the dialing keypad **100** appears on the display screen **32**. At this point any other mode of operation displayed on the switching fields **38** maybe selected.

The preferred embodiment also provides for receiving and transmitting videotex information. By touching the switching field **38** identified as "videotex center" (shown in FIG. **3**) with the pen **50**, the processing unit **76** establishes a connection to the videotex modem **90** via selection switch **82**. Simultaneously, the data contents of the matrix memory **78** are erased and the plurality of screen-displayed notices **48** (shown in FIG. **5**) are stored in the matrix memory **78** and displayed on the display screen **32**. The videotex center is then automatically dialed by the processing unit **76**. The screen-displayed notices **48** visually indicate the process that has been initiated with the visual representation being cancelled upon establishment of the connection.

As is seen in FIG. **5**, the switching fields **38** in the videotex mode of operation are subdivided into partial fields **40**. This subdivision is illustrated by a representation of the corresponding lines on the display screen **32**. By touching the resistive coating **42** with the pen **50** within the area of the switching fields **38** and the partial fields **40**, the represented switching functions are triggered so that contact may be established with the videotex center. Interruption of the existing connection is permitted by touching the switching field **38** entitled "off" (shown in FIG. **5**) with the pen **50**. An interrupt signal is triggered to terminate the videotex center mode. The communication terminal **10** then returns to the telephone mode of operation and the image of the dialing keypad **100** appears on the display screen **32** as shown in FIG. **3**.

Thus, the present invention discloses a telephone set **14** for processing voice communications and an input device **30** for displaying graphical information which is incorporated within the single compact casing **12**.

In the preferred embodiment, the extraction of the voltage levels from the resistive coating **42** to form the coordinate values is accomplished by the pend **50**. In cases in which the coordinate value input is to be accomplished by an electrically neutral article, a transparent foil **120** (shown in FIG. **2**) is preferably disposed at a small spacing from the resistive coating **42**. The foil **120** is electrically conductively coated on the side facing the display screen **32**. The foil **120** is connected to the circuit component **70**. Physical contact between the foil **120** and the resistive coating **42** permits the extraction of the voltage levels locating the point of touch by the electrically neutral article. The voltage levels are then transmitted to and processed by the circuit component **70** as previously described.

Although the present invention has been described in terms of the presently preferred embodiment(s), it is to be understood that such disclosure is not to be interpreted as limiting. Various alterations and modifications will no doubt become apparent to those skilled in the art after having read the above disclosure. Accordingly, it is intended that the appended claims be interpreted as covering all alterations and modifications as fall within the true spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A communication terminal for processing voice and graphical information comprising, in combination:

an external casing having a compact design and including a cradle;

a telephone set housed within said compact casing and including a handset electrically connected to said compact casing for processing voice communications, said cradle being configured for supporting said handset;

an input device mounted within said compact casing for establishing communication with at least one of a plurality of distant communication terminals, said input device including a flat display screen having a presentation portion and a switching field portion, said presentation portion being provided for the display of graphical information and said switching field portion being provided for initiating the selection of a plurality of switching functions;

transparent resistive coating means mounted above said flat display screen, said resistive coating means being electrically conductive;

a processing unit in electrical communication with said input device for initiating the performance of said plurality of switching functions and for the display and distribution of said graphical information, said processing unit including means for displaying a dialing keypad on the presentation portion of said flat display screen enabling the dialing of said telephone set;

circuit component means in circuit relation with said transparent resistive coating means for providing coordinate value electrical signals thereto;

a pen electrically connected to said circuit component means and manually applied to said resistive coating means of said flat display screen for extracting the coordinate value electrical signals for selecting one of said plurality of switching functions, said plurality of switching functions includ-